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1895

Collins, W. W.
Our friends the birds

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1894.

PARK COMMISSIONERS' REPORT

Springfield, Massachusetts.

OUR FRIENDS THE BIRDS.



1894

Park Commissioners' Report

Springfield, Massachusetts.

Clark W. Bryan Company,
Printers.

OUR FRIENDS THE BIRDS.

DANIEL J. MARSH, ESQ.,

President of Park Commissioners:

DEAR SIR.—A year ago I had the pleasure of preparing for you an approximate list of the birds that frequent "Forest Park," as residents, regular migrants and irregular visitants.

With your permission I will add to that list the names of a few species whose presence in the Park has been observed during the past year.

The Fish Crow and the Red-headed Woodpecker were identified by Mr. Barney, who is an interested and intelligent observer of the habits of birds, and who is doing a great deal in their interest by furnishing them with an abundant supply of food and attractive shrubbery for shelter and nesting places.

The Misses Dewey of this city were fortunate enough to find within the limits of the Park that remarkable bird, rare in all parts of this state, the Yellow-breasted Chat.

It was observed there last June, and several amateur ornithologists had the pleasure of listening to its wonderful ventriloquism and the great variety of tones and calls in its polyglot vocabulary. Its return next summer is anticipated with no little interest.

I visited the Park many times last summer, and not once in the song season did I fail to find, in large numbers, the most interesting song birds that are regular summer residents of Southern Massachusetts.

In the open grounds on the borders of the Park the three leading songsters of the Sparrow family could be heard on any pleasant day in June. The Song Sparrow frequented the swales and moist runs, and his sprightly song was heard from March to September.

ing statement of the number of nests of game birds found within the Park in the summer of 1894:

Black Duck,	3 nests
Wood Duck,	2 "
Woodcock,	2 "
Ruffed Grouse,	5 "
Quail,	6 "

The prompt arrest by the Park Police of the parties detected shooting game and song birds in violation of law, merits the hearty approval of the Peabody Society, and of all others who have at heart the protection of our feathered friends.

So long as the Park Commissioners maintain their policy of furnishing protection, food and shelter, for the birds that visit the Park, the birds will surely be found there in increasing numbers, and will form one of the many attractions which draw visitors to that beautiful place.

American Herring Gull.	Red-Shouldered Hawk.
American Merganser.	Broad-winged Hawk.
Black Duck.	American Rough-legged Hawk.
Wood Duck.	Pigeon Hawk, <i>Winter visitant.</i>
American Bittern, <i>Occasional visitant.</i>	American Sparrow Hawk.
Great Blue Heron, <i>Occasional visitant.</i>	American Osprey.
Black-crowned Night Heron, <i>Occasional visitant.</i>	American Long-eared Owl.
Green Heron, <i>Occasional visitant.</i>	Barred Owl.
American Woodcock.	Saw-whet Owl.
Solitary Sandpiper.	Screech Owl.
Spotted Sandpiper.	Great Horned Owl.
Bob-white or Quail.	Snowy Owl, <i>Winter visitant.</i>
Ruffed Grouse or Partridge.	Yellow-billed Cuckoo.
Mourning Dove.	Black-billed Cuckoo.
Marsh Hawk.	Belted Kingfisher.
Sharp-shinned Hawk.	Hairy Woodpecker.
Cooper's Hawk.	Downy Woodpecker.
American Gos-hawk, <i>Winter visitant.</i>	Yellow-bellied Sapsucker.
Red-tailed Hawk.	Red-headed Woodpecker.
	Flicker or Golden-winged Wood-pecker.
	Whip-poor-will.

Night Hawk.	White-throated Sparrow,
Chimney Swift.	<i>Common migrant.</i>
Ruby-throated Hummingbird.	
Kingbird.	Tree Sparrow,
<i>Common summer resident.</i>	<i>Winter visitant.</i>
Phoebe or Pewee,	Chipping Sparrow.
<i>Common summer resident.</i>	Field Sparrow.
Wood Pewee,	Slate-colored Junco,
<i>Common summer resident.</i>	<i>Regular migrant, and sometimes remains in winter</i>
Least Flycatcher,	Song Sparrow.
<i>Common summer resident.</i>	Fox Sparrow.
Crested Flycatcher,	<i>Regular migrant.</i>
<i>Rather rare summer resident.</i>	Towhee or Chewink.
Olive-sided Flycatcher,	Rose-breasted Grosbeak.
<i>Rather rare summer resident.</i>	
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher,	Indigo Bunting.
<i>Rare migrant.</i>	Scarlet Tanager.
Traill's Flycatcher,	Purple Martin.
<i>Rare migrant.</i>	Cliff Swallow.
Blue Jay.	Barn Swallow.
American Crow.	Tree Swallow.
Fish Crow.	Bank Swallow.
Bobolink.	
Red-winged Blackbird.	<i>The swallows live near the Park in summer and may appear there in search of food.</i>
Baltimore Oriole.	Cedar Waxwing or Cherrybird.
Rusty Blackbird,	Northern Shrike or Butcherbird.
<i>Migrant</i>	<i>Winter visitant.</i>
Bronzed Grackle or Crow Blackbird.	Red-eyed Vireo.
Pine Grosbeak.	Warbling Vireo.
<i>Winter Visitant.</i>	Yellow-throated Vireo.
Purple Finch.	Blue-headed Vireo.
American Crossbill,	Black and white Warbler.
<i>Winter visitant.</i>	Nashville Warbler.
White-winged Crossbill,	Tennessee Warbler,
<i>Winter visitant.</i>	<i>Migrant.</i>
Red-poll.	Parula Warbler.
<i>Winter visitant.</i>	Yellow Warbler.
American Goldfinch.	Black-throated Blue Warbler.
Pine Siskin.	<i>Myrtle Warbler,</i>
<i>Winter visitant.</i>	<i>Migrant but found sometimes in winter.</i>
Snowflake.	Magnolia Warbler.
<i>Winter visitant.</i>	Chestnut-sided Warbler.
Vesper Sparrow.	Bay-breasted Warbler,
White-crowned Sparrow,	<i>Migrant.</i>
<i>Rare migrant.</i>	Black-poll Warbler,
	<i>Migrant.</i>

Black-burnian Warbler.	Brown Creeper,
Black-throated Green Warbler.	White-breasted Nuthatch.
Pine Warbler.	Red-breasted Nuthatch,
Oven Bird.	<i>Migrant.</i>
Maryland Yellow-throat.	Chickadee.
Yellow-breasted Chat.	Golden-crowned Kinglet,
Wilson's Warbler,	<i>Migrant and winter resaent.</i>
<i>Migrant.</i>	Ruby-crowned Kinglet,
Canadian Warbler.	<i>Migrant.</i>
American Redstart.	Wood Thrush.
Catbird.	Wilson's Thrush,
Brown Thrasher.	Olive-backed Thrush,
House Wren,	<i>Migrant.</i>
<i>Breeds in an orchard west of the Park.</i>	Hermit Thrush,
Winter Wren,	<i>Migrant.</i>
<i>Migrant.</i>	American Robin.
	Bluebird.

WILLIAM W. COLBURN.

Springfield, January 15, 1895.

